



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Patent Application of

GAINER et al

Atty. Ref.: 4112-7

Serial No. 10/647,132

Group: 1626

Filed: August 25, 2003

Examiner:

For: BIPOLAR TRANS CAROTENOID SALTS AND THEIR USES

\* \* \* \* \*

January 9, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The listed references were cited in the International Search Report, a copy of which is attached. A copy of the cited Laidig article is also attached. It is no longer necessary to provide copies of U.S. references.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

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